

You Got Me Sick!

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Thomas was furious. His friend Steve had come over for a visit yesterday. That was fun and all, because they played video games and watched TV together, but Steve hadn't mentioned that he was sick before he'd arrived. He hadn't said a single word about it.

Steve looked a bit pale and had the sniffles when he arrived, but he'd insisted it was just allergies. He popped a couple allergy pills and went on playing his game, occasionally wiping his snot on a napkin or even on his pants. It was pretty gross. Later on, he was looking worse and drinking a lot of water. He eventually went home a bit earlier than he usually would have.

Thomas didn't think much of it until two days later, when *his* nose started to run. Man, what was with the headache, too? He wasn't feeling well at all. A few hours later, and he was sure he had a good fever. Sure enough, the thermometer said 101 degrees. Thomas groaned and called his friend.

"You got me sick!" He yelled at Steve through the phone.

"What? I'm fine. I was sick a few days ago, though." Steve replied casually.

"You came to my house a few days ago."

"Oh, yeah. Sorry, dude."

Thomas couldn't help but shout when his friend had the nerve to chuckle on the other end, as if his misery was trivial and silly. "YOU GOT ME SICK!"

"Sorry!"

Thomas let his friend have it, because he felt so betrayed by his friend's lack of consideration. "Never come to my house again with as much as a sniffle, a sneeze, an itch in your throat, or a fluttery feeling in your guts. NEVER." He slammed the phone and flopped onto his sofa.

So, Thomas spent his weekend on the sofa watching reruns and programs he'd recorded. He slurped down bitter medicines, and he drank ginger ale to stay hydrated. He ate chicken noodle soup, too, and every moment of it he thought of Steve – every salty bite!



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Why is Steve coming to visit Thomas?
 - A. to do homework
 - B. to eat pizza
 - C. to watch the football game
 - D. to play games
2. How does Steve look when he arrives?
 - A. a little sick
 - B. perfectly fine
 - C. terribly ill
 - D. tired
3. TRUE OR FALSE: Steve warned Thomas that he was feeling out of sorts before arriving.
 - A. True
 - B. False
4. Which of these does NOT describe how Thomas was feeling after he got sick?
 - A. ill
 - B. upset
 - C. confused
 - D. betrayed
5. Which of these does Thomas NOT do to get better?
 - A. lay around and rest
 - B. yell at Steve on the phone
 - C. eat soup
 - D. drink ginger ale

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